



South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee Minutes

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
Verity Room, Olde Town Hall

Members Present:

Cathy Seip, Chair
Dorothy Henderson, Vice Chair
Glen Nicholson
Beth Cooper
Debbie Mountenay
George Wilson

Staff:

Dave Atthill

1. Meeting Called to Order

Cathy Seip, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Verity Room at the Olde Town Hall.

2. Agenda Update

- 2.1 Update on winning the 5 Blooms – Bronze
- 2.2 Membership for South Huron CIB

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

- 4.1 Minutes of the South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee meeting of July 4, 2018.

Motion: 19-2018
Moved: D. Henderson
Seconded: D. Mountenay

That the minutes of the July 4, 2018 meeting are hereby approved as amended.

Disposition: Carried

5. Discussion

5.1 Update on winning the 5 Blooms – Bronze

Chair Cathy Seip congratulated and thanked everyone on all their efforts in winning the 5 Blooms – Bronze. Debbie commented that the awards were a big deal and she gained a new appreciation for what Communities in Bloom can do for the community. The committee thanked Debbie for representing the South Huron Communities in Bloom at the awards in Alberta and for presenting the plaque to the Council.

5.2 Membership for South Huron CIB

Cathy mentioned that she would not like to be chair, and that it was time for a change for the CIB. It is important to have Council's support. Perhaps other Committees of Council members, who have common interests, could attend our committee meeting. The South Huron CIB committee is open to reaching out to other groups, and the public for new members.

We should carryforward the momentum of winning of the 5 Bloom – Bronze and should promote ourselves more aggressively.

Motion: 20-2018
Moved: D. Henderson
Seconded: G. Wilson

That the South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee member Debbie Mountenay will draft a letter exploring partnerships with likeminded organizations.

Disposition: Carried

5.3 Work Plan and Evaluation Review

Things that worked well and were identified in the 2018 Judges' Evaluation:

1. Municipality's Corporate Strategic Plan
2. Cultural Collective
3. Cooperation of BIA and Chamber of Commerce
4. Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (received high marks)
5. Jessica's House
6. Barn Quilt Tour
7. Meeting representatives of Council, staff, community leaders, volunteers and residents
8. Bluewater Recycling
9. South Huron Trail/Morrison Dam Conservation Area
10. Charging Stations for electric cars

11. CIB tree sales
12. Cemetery
13. Butterfly Garden/Scenic Garden
14. Carpet Bedding Logo Garden

The following are comments and discussions on the things that worked well:

1. Reach out to other community groups and organizations.
2. Continue to build on Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority relationship.
3. Learn from the success of Jessica's House.
4. Plan to ensure the continued success of the Barn Quilt Trail Tour.

Recommendations from Evaluation:

Urban Forestry:

- More involvement with youth or school groups
- Improve windbreak at edge of field on Crediton Road
- Develop Tree Strategy for municipality
- Building Permits – landscape clause

Committee Comments:

Develop the *Growth with Me* program. Debbie will contact the schools to see if there is any interest.

Dave will look for a Municipal property that could be naturalized. Bee seeds and wild flower seeds can possibly be spread in the naturalized area. Seeds could be spread at Thames - Elimville Road Park , Port Blake, and McNaughton Park.

Support and input on the finalizing of the MOSH tree policy. Make sure that the MOSH Building Department Landscaping Clause is included in the information to the judges and in the Profile Book.

Glenn proposed wind breaks be added at Port Blake and Dashwood Ball Diamond.

Heritage Conservation:

- Continue to support Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority
- Allow more turf areas to naturalize
- Consider a Graveyard Tour
- Consider a museum – start collecting and cataloging important local artifacts
- Develop an (oral) history project
- Develop representation of the role of indigenous people – perhaps a plaque along with a Three Sisters Garden can be created

Committee comments:

One possibility is to approach the history teachers from the South Huron District High School to see if there is any interest in a cemetery tour. A graveyard tour at Halloween is another possibility.

Inviting Aaron Neeb from the Cultural Collective to examine partnership opportunities was discussed for developing representation of the role of indigenous people.

Bonnie is developing an (oral) history project regarding young ladies who were brought to this area to work in the farming industry during the war.

The remaining areas to discuss are tidiness, environmental action, floral design and landscape. We will discuss these at the next meeting.

Landscape

- Enhance Welcome Signs to South Huron
- Create a biking/hiking trail to link the entire Municipality
- Coordinate the look of the bike racks
- Add clause to property standards by-law to assess murals every 5 years
- Invite students to create the banner designs for all of South Huron
- Consider promoting 8-10ft ribbons cut along the road

Floral Displays

- Place significant and similar floral displays in each community
- Use garden tours as a fundraiser
- Enhance the Backyard Oasis program
- Enhance the Visitor Centre, Hospital and Post Office
- Consider hanging baskets with reservoirs

Environmental Action

Provide workshops on use and value of composters and rain barrels.

- Municipality could install rain barrels at public sites
- Consider holding Public Utility Day (councillors/school/public) tours
- If Community Hub is built, we should recommend it be made GREEN Friendly
- Fix parking lot stalls by the Downtown Parkette
- Huron Park was the only community that appeared untidy
- Continue with repairs and replacements of deteriorating benches
- Try to engage residents in the annual cleanup

6. Communications

None.

7. New Business

Discussion on recruiting for the Communities in Bloom Committee and assigning each member a role, project, or activity to manage.

Efforts should be made to advertise and promote Communities in Bloom South Huron. Increasing exposure will help with recruitment of new members and to educate the public on what CIB does for the community.

8. Adjournment

Motion: 21-2018
Moved: G. Wilson
Seconded: G. Nicholson

That the South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee hereby adjourns at 8:05 p.m., to meet again on December 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Verity Room, Olde Town Hall, or at the Call of the Chair.

Disposition: Carried

Cathy Seip, Chair

David Atthill, Recording Secretary